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JAPAN.

*Report from Yokohama—Plague cases from steamship Empress of China—
Plague in Formosa.*

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, June 23, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to notify you that since the date of my last report no case of plague has occurred in Japan proper, with the following exceptions:

June 10, 1 case of a suspicious nature was detected upon the steamship *Empress of China* upon her arrival at Nagasaki, for which the ship has duly served her quarantine of ten days. A case having been landed from said ship at Shanghai June 8, with indefinite but suspicious symptoms, and the patient having died on the 9th, unmistakably of plague, the ship was quarantined on this account upon her arrival at Nagasaki, when the case above referred to was found among the steerage passengers, but with very doubtful symptoms, which, after the sending of the patient to the quarantine hospital, speedily developed into undoubted plague, from which death occurred on the 12th.

June 20, the *Empress of China* was discharged from quarantine, no more cases having occurred on board, and to-day, at the request of the agent of the company, I made a thorough inspection of the ship, her crew and passengers, finding no evidence of any infection whatever.

In addition to this case I should mention the fact that on June 19 a corpse was brought to Bakan, by the Japanese steamship *Tainan Maru*, from Formosa, which was suspected to be that of a case of plague, and on account of which the ship was placed in quarantine, where she now lies.

The epidemic of plague continues unabated, perhaps rather increasing in Formosa, and the Japanese authorities have enjoined extra care at all quarantine stations as regards ships coming from that island.

After a considerable interval, during which most painstaking investigation failed to find any pest-infected rats beyond those originally discovered about the premises of the Imperial University, a rat, unquestionably infected, was found in Tokyo, June 20, again in the neighborhood of the university.

A most energetic attack on the rat is now being made, both in Tokyo and Yokohama, under the urgency of the sanitary authorities.

Respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

MEXICO.

Reports from Vera Cruz—Yellow fever continues.

VERA CRUZ, MEXICO, July 3, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report for the week ended June 29, 1901:

The mortality report still shows an increase, 42 deaths being reported during the week. There were 7 cases of yellow fever, with 3 deaths. Five of the cases were among soldiers, and, I think, all were treated at the military hospital. One was in the person of a civilian, the other the wife of a soldier.

The premises in which cases have occurred have been disinfected by the health department.

So far no contagious or infectious diseases have occurred on board of any of the vessels, whether anchored out in the bay or alongside the docks. The masters are making every effort to keep their men aboard ship.

During the week 5 vessels were cleared and given bills of health and 194 passengers inspected.

The mortality report for the week is inclosed.

Respectfully,

D. E. DUDLEY,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

Vera Cruz, Mexico—Mortality report for the week ended June 29, 1901.

Yellow fever.....	3	Tetanus.....	2
Tuberculosis (intestinal).....	1	Enteritis.....	3
Pulmonary tuberculosis.....	5	Pleurisy.....	1
Entero-colitis.....	3	Malarial fever.....	2
Pernicious fever.....	4	Total deaths from all causes.....	42

VERA CRUZ, MEXICO, *July 8, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the transactions at this station during the week ended July 6, 1901:

Thirty-seven deaths occurred in the city, 4 being from yellow fever. During the week 8 new cases were reported.

As the agents of the transportation companies are asking for certificates for the shipment of hides, special attention has been given to this class of freight. Four hundred and forty bundles of hides were inspected during the past week and 90 bundles were held for disinfection before a certificate was issued.

The regular passenger steamers of the Ward Line do not now call at Campeche, but have their passengers and freight from other Mexican ports transhipped here from their smaller vessels.

The steamers *Bailey*, *Cometa*, and *Hidalgo* are Ward Line coasting vessels and pick up passengers and freight at Campeche, Frontera, Laguna, Tlacotalpan, and other Mexican ports, and then transshipping to the regular line in Vera Cruz.

These vessels with their crews and cargoes will be carefully inspected before going alongside their passenger steamers, and the agents have been advised as to the necessity of keeping these vessels in the best sanitary condition possible.

The inclosed mortality report for the week shows a slight decrease in the city's death rate.

Respectfully,

D. E. DUDLEY,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

Vera Cruz, Mexico—Mortality report for the week ended July 6, 1901.

Yellow fever.....	4	Tuberculosis.....	7
Dysentery.....	2	Enteritis.....	1
Pernicious fever.....	1	Pneumonia.....	1
Malarial fever.....	3	Total deaths from all causes.....	37
Tetanus.....	1		